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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a basket supporting a tower crane; and

a plurality of support members with each support member directly attached to one of a plurality of respective vertical steel columns of a structure under construction, wherein

the plurality of vertical steel columns includes at least three vertical steel columns,

each support member has an uppermost surface, and

the basket rests on the uppermost surface of the plurality of support members.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of outriggers attached to the basket and spaced apart from each other with each outrigger being supported by the respective support member.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 2, further comprising a plurality of clamps

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each operable to secure the basket to the respective support member.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of outriggers attached to the basket and spaced apart from each other with each outrigger including a foot member operable to extend over and rest on the respective support member.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The tower crane device according to claim 4, wherein each ~~support member comprises a first support member and a second~~ at least two of the plurality of support member members are positioned at a substantially right angle to the first support member each other.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 1, wherein the basket includes:

an upper frame;

an outer frame having a larger diameter than the upper frame; and

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a plurality of arms coupling the upper frame to the outer frame with each arm extending toward a respective support member.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 1, wherein the basket is a first basket, further comprising:

- a second basket slidably coupled to a tower; and
- a plurality of additional support members with each support member attached to one of a plurality of respective vertical columns of the structure under construction and supporting the second basket.

Claim 9 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 8, further comprising:

- a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower; and
- a lifter attached to the second basket and the climbing frame, the lifter operable to:

- raise the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the second basket is in a stationary position; and

- raise the second basket with respect to the tower while the climbing frame is in a stationary position.

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Claim 10 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 9 wherein after the second basket is raised the lifter is further operable to raise the first basket using the climbing frame while the second basket is in a stationary position.

Claim 11 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 8, further comprising:

- a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower;

- a frame locker having an unlocked position and a locked position that locks the climbing frame to the tower;

- a basket locker having an unlocked position and a locked position that locks the second basket to the tower;

- a lifter attached to the second basket and the climbing frame, the lifter operable to:

  - raise the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the frame locker is in the unlocked position and the basket locker is in the locked position; and

  - raise the second basket with respect to the tower while the frame locker is in the locked position and the basket locker is in the unlocked position.

Claim 12 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 11 wherein

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after the second basket is raised the lifter is further operable to raise the first basket with respect to the tower while the frame locker is in the locked position and the basket locker is in the unlocked position.

Claim 13 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 12 wherein

the frame locker comprises a first dog attached to one side of the climbing frame and a second dog attached to another side of the climbing frame.

Claim 14 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 12 wherein:

the frame locker includes a first dog attached to one side of the climbing frame and a second dog attached to another side of the climbing frame; and

the basket locker includes two dogs attached to different sides of the second basket.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a first basket operable to support a tower crane;

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a plurality of first outriggers attached to the first basket and spaced apart from each other, each first outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of first support members with each first support member directly mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical steel columns of a structure under construction, wherein

each of the plurality of first support members has an uppermost surface, and

each first outrigger foot rests on the uppermost surface of a respective first support member.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 15, wherein the first basket includes:

an upper frame;

an outer frame having a larger diameter than the upper frame; and

a plurality of arms coupling the upper frame to the outer frame with each arm extending toward a respective support member.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The tower crane device according to claim 16, further comprising:

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a second basket slidably coupled to the tower crane and spaced apart from the first basket; and

a plurality of second outriggers attached to the second basket and spaced apart from each other, each second outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of second support members with each second support member mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical columns of the structure under construction, each second outrigger foot resting on a respective second support member.

Claim 18 (Original) The tower crane device according to claim 17, further comprising:

a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower crane;  
a lifter attached to the second basket and the climbing frame, the lifter operable to:

raise the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the second basket is in a stationary position; and

raise the second basket with respect to the tower while the climbing frame is in the stationary position.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) A tower crane device comprising:

a first basket supporting a tower crane;

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a plurality of first outriggers attached to corners of the first basket and spaced apart from each other, each first outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of first support members with each first support member mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical steel columns of a structure under construction, wherein

each of the plurality of first support members has an uppermost surface, and

each foot rests on and is in compression with the uppermost surface of a respective first support member.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) A tower crane device comprising:

a lower basket operable to support a tower crane; and

a plurality of lower support members with each lower support member mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical steel columns of a structure under construction, the lower support members supporting the lower basket to distribute the weight of the tower crane on the plurality of vertical columns of the structure;

an upper basket slidably coupled to the tower crane; and

a plurality of upper support members with each upper support member mounted to one of a plurality of respective

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vertical columns of the structure, the upper support members supporting the upper basket, wherein

the plurality of vertical steel columns of the structure under construction includes at least three vertical steel columns,

each of the plurality of lower support members and each of the plurality of upper support members has an uppermost surface,

the lower basket rests on the uppermost surface of at least one of the plurality of lower support members, and

the upper basket rests on the uppermost surface of at least one of the plurality of upper support members.

Claim 21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Withdrawn) A method of lifting a tower crane extending through an opening in structure of a building under construction, comprising:

resting a first basket supporting a tower on vertical columns of a structure;

resting a second basket on the vertical columns of the structure, the second basket being slidable with respect to the tower;

providing a climbing frame slidably coupled to the tower;

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raising the climbing frame with respect to the tower while the second basket is in a stationary position; and

raising the second basket with respect to the tower while the climbing frame is in a stationary position.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, further comprising repeating the steps of raising the climbing frame and raising the second basket until the second basket reaches a desired level.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, further comprising raising the first basket using the climbing frame while the second basket is in a stationary position.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) A tower crane device comprising:

a basket supporting a tower crane; and

a plurality of support members with each support member directly attached to one of a plurality of respective vertical columns of a structure under construction, each at least two of the plurality of support members ~~including a first support member and a second support member~~ being positioned at a substantially right angle to the first support member each other, wherein

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the plurality of vertical columns of a structure under construction includes at least three vertical columns; and

the basket rests on the first support member and the second support member of each of the plurality of support members.

Claim 26 (New) A tower crane device comprising:

a first basket supporting a tower crane;

a plurality of first outriggers attached to corners of the first basket and spaced apart from each other, each first outrigger having a foot; and

a plurality of first support members with each first support member directly mounted to one of a plurality of respective vertical steel columns of a structure under construction, wherein

each of the plurality of first support members has an uppermost surface, and

each foot rests on and is in compression with the uppermost surface of a respective first support member.

Claim 27 (New) The tower crane device according to claim 26, wherein

each foot rests on and is in compression with the uppermost surface of at least two first support members.

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Claim 28 (New) A tower crane device comprising:

a lower basket operable to support a tower crane; and

a plurality of lower support members with each lower support member mounted directly to one of a plurality of respective vertical steel columns of a structure under construction, the lower support members supporting the lower basket to distribute the weight of the tower crane on the plurality of vertical columns of the structure;

an upper basket slidably coupled to the tower crane; and

a plurality of upper support members with each upper support member mounted directly to one of a plurality of respective vertical columns of the structure, the upper support members supporting the upper basket, wherein

the plurality of vertical steel columns of the structure under construction includes at least three vertical steel columns,

each of the plurality of lower support members and each of the plurality of upper support members has an uppermost surface,

the lower basket rests on the uppermost surface of at least one of the plurality of lower support members, and

the upper basket rests on the uppermost surface of at least one of the plurality of upper support members.

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Claim 29 (New) The tower crane device according to claim 5, wherein

at least one foot member is operable to extend over and rest on at least two support members.

Claim 30 (New) The tower crane device according to claim 15, wherein

at least one first outrigger foot rests on the uppermost surface of at least two first support members.

Claim 31 (New) The tower crane device according to claim 20, wherein

the lower basket rests on the uppermost surface of at least two of the plurality of lower support members.

Claim 32 (New) The tower crane device according to claim 20, wherein

the upper basket rests on the uppermost surface of at least two of the plurality of upper support members.